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## MESSAGE FROM KALANI

Tropical storm Iselle serves as a strong reminder of just how vulnerable we really are here in the islands. Being proactive in disaster preparedness ensures our resilience and ability to recover from unforeseen catastrophes. I am proud that the East Maui communities are collaborating to develop effective evacuation and reconstruction plans in anticipation of future adversity.

In this issue, we take a look at some of the recently released funds for Capital Improvement Projects in our district, we focus on community concerns, disaster preparedness and post disaster reconstruction at various community meetings throughout our district and join the Hawai'i Legislators as they attend the 40th Annual National Conference of State Legislators' Legislative Summit.

# SENATOR J.KALANI ENGLISH

## HAWAI'I STATE SENATE 7TH DISTRICT

HĀNA, EAST AND UPCOUNTRY MAUI,  
MOLOKA'I, LĀNA'I AND KAHO'OLAWĒ



## \$5,875,600 IN FUNDS RELEASED FOR 7TH DISTRICT CAPITAL IMPROVEMENT PROJECTS (CIP)

### Moloka'i State Office Building

\$538,000 was released for replacement of the chiller and timer at the State Office Building Complex on Moloka'i. The original State office building was destroyed by fire on February 10, 1980. Consequently, replacement office facilities were constructed in the 1990s for the displaced state agencies, which includes in part, the Judiciary, Departments of Health, Taxation, Accounting and General Services, Land and Natural Resources and the Welfare Office.

"Replacing the chiller and timer at the aging complex is necessary in Kaunakakai where temperature and humidity are real factors to be considered in creating a comfortable working environment for both the workers and the public," notes Sen. English, "Installation of new equipment with advance technology also reduces the cost of both maintenance services and energy consumption."

### Haleakalā Highway Intersection Improvements at Kula Highway

Funds of \$1,650,000 was released to begin design and construction work for the installation of a right turn lane at the intersection of Haleakalā and Kula Highway. As more development occurs in Upcountry Maui demand for wider roads and more traffic lanes increases to allow for safer and more efficient traffic flow throughout the area.

"A right turn lane at the intersection of Haleakalā and Kula Highways will ease traffic to create a smooth and seamless commute for drivers," adds Sen. English, "More importantly, these much-needed improvements will help to ensure the safety of both residents and visitors as they traverse these widely-used roads."

### Hāna Highway Improvements, Phase 2A, Huelo to Hāna

More work will begin on Hāna Highway from Huelo to Hāna after \$2,340,000 was released for additional design and construction. The 32 miles of highway is the only paved road between Keanae and Hāna. Improvements and restoration to this stretch of roadway will make it safer for users and will upgrade existing facilities to current standards.

Throughout the years inclement weather damaged sections of the road leading to further deterioration and erosion. In these areas retaining walls or embankments need to be constructed to make the road stable. Culverts also need to be replaced or upgraded due to deterioration to prevent more landslides. Guardrails have to be repaired or new ones installed.

"In the aftermath of Islle, we welcome ongoing efforts to ensure that Hāna Highway remains viable," remarks Sen. English, "We know all too well the kind of destruction nature can have on our islands and infrastructure, and as a lifeline to the Hāna and Keanae communities, restoring and improving the highway is an investment in security and safety."

**Hāna High and Elementary School** was awarded \$1,347,600 to begin construction for science facilities upgrades and American with Disabilities Act (ADA) improvements that include new ramps, signage, railings, warning surfaces and a new highway ramp into the theater.

"I am pleased that funds have been released for Hāna school," said Sen. English, "Now our students will have the proper resources to do well and the entire community will have safe access to our school."

## EAST MAUI COMMUNITY MEETINGS

Sen. English attended the Kaupo, Kipahulu, and Hāna Community meetings on August 16 to examine current on-going State and County projects in the area and to meet with various local constituents to discuss their issues and concerns. Mayor Arakawa, various State and County officials and community leaders were also in attendance.

At the Old Kaupo School, Sen. English attended their Community Association General meeting. He also attended a Talk Story session with the Kipahulu Community Association at Kalena Triangle and ended with a talk story session with the Hāna community at the Hāna Council Services Office.

This was a rare opportunity for community groups and constituents to participate in a Q & A session with the various public officials while simultaneously providing their mana'o and concerns.



(Above) Sen. English, Mayor Alan Arakawa and Maui County Council Member Bob Carroll in Kaupo. Aug. 16, 2014.

(Top) Attendees of the Kaupo Community Association's general meeting held at the old Kaupo School. Aug. 16, 2014.

(Middle) Sen. English speaking to the Kipahulu Community Association at Kalena Triangle. Aug. 16, 2014.

(Below) Sen. English and Mayor Alan Arakawa speaking to the Hāna Community Association. Aug. 16, 2014.

(Below) Maui Fire Dept. inspection of the Old Kaupo School House. Aug. 16, 2014.



## STORM PREPAREDNESS IN THE FACE OF DISASTER

By the time Iselle made landfall on Maui on August 8, she was no longer a hurricane but was downgraded to a tropical storm with wind gusts well below 74 miles per hour. Due to better weather tracking instruments and data, preparation for a storm can begin at least a week prior to its occurrence. In most cases, this provides enough time for disaster preparedness.

"We were fortunate that Hurricane Julio passed north of the islands since many of our residents are still recovering in the aftermath of Iselle," said Sen. English, "Thankfully, our residents and visitors heeded the storm warnings and stayed safe at home and off the streets allowing for emergency vehicles and crews to work on repairing the damage."

After Iselle most of the severe damage on Maui occurred in Upcountry and Hāna. Strong winds and rains knocked down trees and power lines in Ha'ikū, Makawao, Olinda and Pukalani leaving many without service. In Ulupalakua an iron beam shed was totally demolished by strong winds. Wave surges in Hāna created ocean debris along the shoreline. In Kaupō an old school



building would have toppled if it wasn't braced before the storm.

"Every year during Hurricane season from June to November we are exposed to a wide range of storms that sweep across the Pacific Ocean," notes Sen. English, "And, with each passing year we become more resourceful, mindful that we import most of our food and commodities while also realizing that our safety and wellbeing depends on observing storm warnings and taking the steps to be prepared in the event of natural disaster."

Although, the last time Hawai'i was hit by a hurricane with 145 mph winds was Iniki in 1992 killing six people and destroying more than 1,400 homes on Kaua'i; storm preparedness makes sense especially when 2014 is forecasted to be an El Nino year with unusually warm ocean temperatures that can cause category 5 hurricanes. The Central Pacific Hurricane Center recommends the following when a hurricane or tropical storm watch is issued:

1. Fuel and service family vehicles;
2. Prepare to cover all windows and door openings with boards, shutters or other shielding materials;
3. Store and secure outdoor lawn furniture and other loose, lightweight objects, such as garbage cans and garden tools;
4. Check and replenish disaster supply kits; and
5. Have an extra supply of cash on hand.

For the latest storm information go to: <http://www.prh.noaa.gov/cphc/>

## POST-DISASTER RECONSTRUCTION GUIDELINES AND PROTOCOLS MEETING



*Participants of the first Post Disaster Reconstruction Guidelines and Protocols meeting in Hāna. August 28, 2014.*

Members of the Hāna community met on July 28, in Hāna to develop Post-Disaster Reconstruction Guidelines and Protocols plans. They hope to accommodate expeditious reconstruction while conserving valued coastal resources and protecting sensitive ecosystems. Following the destruction caused by tropical storm Iselle, many east Maui properties were damaged and are now in need of repair.

This meeting is an attempt to ensure that our natural assets and coastal resources—beaches, reefs, parks and shoreline access—are not degraded or lost in our rush to rebuild. Working with the County of Maui, a community-based Post-Disaster Reconstruction Guidelines and Protocols plan is being developed. This proactive planning effort will prioritize rebuilding actions, create a process sequence, and help expedite the approval process of urgent reconstruction needs. Rebuilding priorities include: Being proactive, efficient and respectful; Reducing post-disaster hardship; Protecting sensitive natural and cultural resources; More resilient coastal communities;

Strengthening our economy; Supporting the community's sustainability and quality of life goals.

"I am glad to see our communities working together and helping each other," said Sen. English, "Collaboration to rebuild and being proactive in disaster preparedness is a good way to ensure our resilience and ability to overcome adversity from a natural disaster."

The plan includes the islands of Maui, Moloka'i, and Lāna'i, and will especially consider our isolated and rural communities that are vulnerable to coastal storms. A yearlong planning process begins Jan. 2014 - Jan. 2015 and will include five community workshop meetings on the islands of Moloka'i and Lāna'i and in Hāna, Lahaina, and Kihei on the island of Maui.



**J. KALANI ENGLISH  
HAWAII STATE SENATE  
7TH DISTRICT**

**COMMITTEES**

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on Transportation and  
International Affairs**

**Member, Senate  
Committee on Agriculture**

**Member, Senate Committee on  
Economic Development, Govern-  
ment Operations and Housing**

**Member, Senate Committee on  
Ways and Means**



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**NATIONAL CONFERENCE OF STATE LEGISLATURES  
40TH ANNUAL SUMMIT**

Legislators from across the nation met at the National Conference of State Legislatures' (NCSL) 40th Annual Legislative Summit at the Minneapolis Convention Center beginning on Tuesday, Aug. 19.

Some 5,000 state legislators and legislative staffers attended the weeklong conference to learn invaluable knowledge to take back to their respective states. Attendees began the week with an array of policy-producing committee meetings and ended with a focus on issue forums and best practice discussions.



*Hawai'i Legislators at the 40th Annual NCSL Legislative Summit in Minneapolis, Minnesota. Aug. 20, 2014.*

"The NCSL annual meeting offers legislators professional and developmental opportunities that otherwise would not be available," said Sen. English, "The wide array of topics and information sessions are an invaluable resource for legislators working to improve their home States through new and innovative legislation."

All in all, the annual summit offered more than 100 sessions on everything from ethics and the economy to 3D printing and health care to taxes and transportation.

NCSL is a bipartisan organization that serves the nation's 7,383 state lawmakers and more than 20,000 legislative staff throughout the country, commonwealths and territories. It provides research, technical assistance and opportunities for policymakers to exchange ideas on the most pressing state issues and is an effective and respected advocate for the interests of the States in the American federal system.

Legislators and staffers unable to attend the Summit can stream a selection of six sessions that can be accessed free on the NCSL homepage: <http://www.ncsl.org/> and will be available later in an archive.

**CENTRAL REGIONAL PARK GROUNDBREAKING**

Sen. English attended the groundbreaking ceremony for the new Central Maui Regional Sports Complex located on 65-acres in the master-planned Wai'ale community on July 31.

The park is an addition to the 209-acre Central Maui Regional Park located further west on the other side of Waiko Road. Both facilities will become part of the Central Maui Regional Park system. Phase 1 of the project will cost approximately \$14.8 million and includes construction of a high school baseball field, two softball fields, two comfort stations, a concession stand, parking, landscaping, an irrigation well, and storage tank. Construction on Phase 1 is slated for completion in October 2015.



*Groundbreaking for Central Maui Sports Complex, Kahului. July 31, 2014.*

A total of \$5 million in additional funding has already been appropriated in fiscal year 2015 for future phases of the park. The funds will be used toward the construction of two additional softball fields, four little league baseball fields, three soccer fields, an additional concession stand, additional comfort stations, parking and landscaping.

"This park complex is designed to meet the need for additional recreational facilities in our community," said Sen. English, "We have exceeded our ability to supply recreational facilities, with sometimes five sports clubs using the same field. This project will give children and families more opportunities to participate in athletic activities while generating construction work on the island," continued Sen. English, "It's a win-win situation for everyone."